

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN CRAIGHEAD COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (6-2) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Craighead County, according to Commissioner John Ed Regenold of Armorel and Craighead County Judge Dale Haas.

The purpose of the first project is to install a traffic signal at the intersection of Highway 91 and Gee Street, in the city of Jonesboro. All Service Electric, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$103,011.25.

“This new signal is going to make this a safer intersection for motorists traveling through this area of Jonesboro,” stated Regenold.

The project is being funded with money provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Act provided Arkansas with \$351 million in federal stimulus funds for roadway and bridge improvements throughout the state. Additional information about the ARRA can be found at www.recovery.gov. For more information about its impact on Arkansas, go to www.recovery.arkansas.gov. Information about specific road and bridge construction projects can be found by going to www.ArkansasHighways.com, and clicking on the ARRA logo and link in the lower right portion of the page.

A second project will resurface 2.7 miles of Old Greensboro Road (Highway 351), in Jonesboro. Atlas Asphalt of Jonesboro, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$330,338.24.

“The resurfacing project will begin at the intersection with Highway 49 and continue northward,” Regenold added.

A third project will resurface two miles of County Road 32, east of Bono. Atlas Asphalt, Inc. of Jonesboro, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$205,118.92.

“This project will begin at Highway 141 and continue westward,” stated Judge Haas.

Regenold noted that the County Road project is funded through the State Aid Road Program established by the legislature and administered by the State Aid Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This program provides approximately \$20 million annually from the state motor fuels tax to assist counties with projects of their choosing on the county road system.

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Regenold said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in early 2011 on the traffic signal. Resurfacing on Greensboro Road will be completed in September of this year. Improvements to the county roads should be completed in late August of this year.

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